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# Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /078 W
---------- 061653
R 200916Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8973
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN
SUBJECT: SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS TALKS

REF: SEOUL 4353

1. EIGHTEENTH WORKING LEVEL MEETING OF THE SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS SOCIETIES WAS HELD AUGUST 20 AT PANMUNJOM:

2. CHONG CHU-NYON, SPOKESMAN FOR KOREAN NATIONAL RED CROSS (KNRC), TOLD EMBOFF THAT KNRC STRONGLY PROTESTED AUGUST 18 INCIDENT IN JOINT SECURITY AREA. ACCORDING TO CHONG, THE NORTH CLAIMED THAT THEY WERE ATTACKED FIRST BY THE SOUTH, AND THAT THE NORTH HAD TO TAKE SELF-DEFENSE MEASURES.

3. CHONG SAID THAT THE SOUTH DEMANDED NORTH FIX THE DATE FOR THE LONG-DELAYED EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE KNRC ALSO PROPOSED THAT, IF THE NORTH CANNOT AGREE WITH KNRC'S EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF VISITS TO ANCESTRAL TOMBS DURING CHUSOK (HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL), AT LEAST SOUTH KOREANS BE ALLOWED TO VISIT THEIR ANCESTRAL TOMBS IN THE NORTH.
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CHONG STATED NORTH KOREANS IGNORED KNRC'S PROPOSAL,

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REPEATING THATEXISTING LEGAL CONDITIONS AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE SOUTH ARE SO BAD THE PROPOSAL IS NOT WORTH CONSIDERING. THE NORTH FURTHER ACCUSED THE SOUTH OF PREPARING FOR WAR TOGETHER WITH THE U.S.

4. CHONG STATED THAT ATMOSPHERE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF CONFERENCE ROOM WAS QUITE TENSE BUT THAT "NOT A SINGLE NORTH KOREAN REPORTER OR GUARD CAME TO OUR SIDE, WHICH WAS VERY UNUSUAL," CHONG ADDED.

5. TWO SIDES AGREED TO HOLD 19TH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING ON OCTOBER 19, 1976, AT PANMUNJOM.
STERN

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# Message Attributes

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**Subject:** SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS TALKS
**TAGS:** PFOR, KS, KN
**To:** STATE
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